Re 12 06 17 UU MEETING

From Peg Clifford

I had some ideas. I will be referring to these links at our meeting today.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/21/opinion/kaepernick-negro-national-anthem.html?&moduleDetail=section-news-3&action=click&contentCollection=Opinion&region=Footer&module=MoreInSection&version=WhatsNext&contentID=WhatsNext&pgtype=article>

Colin Kaepernick and the Legacy of the Negro National Anthem

[**Editorial Observer**](https://www.nytimes.com/column/editorial-observer)

**By**[**BRENT STAPLES**](https://www.nytimes.com/by/brent-staples)**NOV. 21, 2017**

**00:53**

**4:42**

Video

**Lift Every Voice and Sing**

The Abyssinian Baptist Church Choir performs the Negro National Anthem.

 Publish DateNovember 21, 2017. .

<https://rewire.news/article/2011/05/04/blackness-goes-poem-commentary-racism-reproductive-justice-0/>

My Blackness Goes Before Me: A Poem and Commentary on Racism and Reproductive Justice

May 4, 2011, 9:43am [Cheryl Gittens-Jones](https://rewire.news/author/cheryl-gittens-jones/)

I wrote this poem because I had grown tired of people not seeing me beyond the color of my skin or my "otherness." I see it being played out on a larger scale as in African-American's women's right to choose as exemplified in this article that talks about Anti-Abortion Billboards.

A steady anger burns within me
Welling up from deep
Deep inside

Three-fifths of a human being
The sacred constitution of the
Red, white and blue

Walking into a room
My blackness goes
My blackness goes
Goes before me

Those of the majority
Not all
Not few
But many
Still do not see
See me as
human
woman

Only
Black

Not as mother
Of a beautiful almond eyed
Sepia skinned
Baby girl
Not as graduate
of
Ivy league
Not as wife
As I
As Me

Someone whose life is
Just as significant
Meaningful
Purposeful
Beautiful

Three-fifths of a human being
The sacred
Sacred constitution of the
The red, white
Red, white and blue
Not removed
Still written in
Indelible ink
To be read
Perused
Overlooked
Excused
Invoked

When I walk in
Into a room in my blackness
Precedes me
You see not I
Not mother
Not woman
Not wife
Just

Black

Nothing has changed

So many things locked in
Racist
Classist
Sexist
Passive aggressiveness
Intellectual sarcasm
Impoverished ignorance
Blatant Alienation

Little has changed
I am
Black and living next door
Behind the same white
Picket fence
Enduring bleached smiles
But not with
Eyes

A steady anger
Burns within me
Welling up from deep
Deep inside

Three-fifths of a human being
The sacred constitution
Of the red, white, and blue
Blackness walking
Walking into
Into the room before me

**TOPICS AND TAGS:**

 [class](https://rewire.news/tag/class/), [discrimination](https://rewire.news/tag/discrimination/), [Human Rights](https://rewire.news/tag/human-rights/), [race](https://rewire.news/tag/race/), [Racism](https://rewire.news/tag/racism/), [Reproductive Rights](https://rewire.news/tag/reproductive-rights/), [Stigma](https://rewire.news/tag/stigma/)

A day trip to

National Museum of African American History and Culture

https://www.google.com/search?q=smithsonian+african+american+history+museum&rlz=1C1NDCM\_enUS702US702&oq=smithsonian+afric&aqs=chrome.2.0j69i57j0l4.6423j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

So I thought I should look at admission info...

**LOOK WHAT I FOUND!**

**Farout...**

[**https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/stories/collection/seeing-black-women-power**](https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/stories/collection/seeing-black-women-power)

Keep thinking what could we do with this.

Grief/Loss/Suicide/Memorial day.

1.Quote: When RFK announced the death of JFK…he quoted Aeschylus

"My favorite poem, my — my favorite poet was Aeschylus," Robert Kennedy said, "and he once wrote:

Even in our sleep, pain which cannot forget
falls drop by drop upon the heart,
until, in our own despair,
against our will,
comes wisdom
through the awful grace of God.

"What we need in the United States is not division; what we need in the United States is not hatred; what we need in the United States is not violence and lawlessness, but is love, and wisdom, and compassion toward one another, and a feeling of justice toward those who still suffer within our country, whether they be white or whether they be black."

<https://www.npr.org/2008/04/04/89365887/robert-kennedy-delivering-news-of-kings-death>

LUCKIEST MAN IN THE WORLD?

2. Mr. Yamaguchi freakishly survived the bombing of Hiroshima. He crossed a river full of bodies on his horrific journey home, using bodies as a raft.

 He wanted to tell his friends and family who were in Nagasaki what he had witnessed. As he tried to tell them, and they told him that he was badly injured and not making sense, the bomb hit Nagasaki.

My question to you is

Was Mr. Yamaguchi the luckiest man in WWII or the unluckiest?